

# THE REFORM TEMPLE OF ROCKLAND

Brighter Together

AUGUST 2018 20 Av — 20 Elul 5778





RTR is a welcoming beacon in Rockland County where Reform Jews can explore their individual Jewish identity and connectivity, inspiring friendship, spirituality and community service.

#### **SERVICES**

Friday Erev Shabbat 7:30 PM
First Friday-Family Shabbat 6:30 PM
Saturday Taste of Torah 9:00 AM
Saturday Morning Shabbat 10:30 AM

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday-Thursday 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Friday 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Office: 845-358-2248 Fax: 845-358-3450

Website: www.RTRny.org

Email: info@RTRny.org



#### **AUGUST DATES AT A GLANCE:**

- 2 Religious School Committee
- 3 Erev Shabbat Family Service
- 7 Knitting Circle
- 8 Executive Committee
- 9 Car Club
  - WRJ/Sisterhood Book Club
- 14 Men's Club Annual Golf Outing
- 15 New Prayerbook Class with Rabbi Sharff
- 17 Erev Shabbat Services: Torah Service
- 18 Rockland Boulders with Men's Club
- 21 Ritual Committee
- 22 Board of Trustees
- 24 Erev Shabbat: Shabbat in the Park
- 26 New Prayerbook Class with Rabbi Sharff
- 28 Religious School Meet & Greet Social

SEE PAGE 17 FOR OUR COMPLETE CALENDAR



RTR welcomes our new members:

Leslie Friedman of Spring Valley!

Arthur Leibowitz & Victoria Ficco-Panzer of Nyack!

#### Peak Inside..

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#### FROM RABBI BENJAMIN SHARFF

In the 1980's, the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR) and the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ) began to explore alternatives to the Gates of

Prayer and its High Holy Day iteration, the *Gates of Repentance*. It took until 2006 to see the dream of a new prayer book, *Mishkan Tefilah*, to come to fruition. This Siddur, or prayerbook, contains traditional Hebrew text, a more direct English translation, more spiritual translations, notes and guidance as well as transliteration - the Hebrew written into English characters. All of this was done to make the prayerbook more accessible with the ultimate goal to make the worship experience more fulfilling.

Due to the overwhelming success of the adoption of *Mishkan Tefilah* and its use in synagogues around North America, there became a push to do the same for the High Holy Day liturgy. To this end, in 2015 the *Mishkan HaNefesh* was introduced. It is similar in design and layout to the *Mishkan Tefilah*. It also contains updated liturgical interpretations more reflective of contemporary sensibilities.

To this end, it was examined by the Ritual Committee and the Clergy, and it was determined that The Reform Temple of Rockland should adopt the use of *Mishkan HaNefesh* for the *Yamim Norai'im*, the High Holy Days. Part of the reason for this decision was because of the general acceptance of an earlier draft edition that has been used at our *Kol Nidre* Services for the past several years.

The proposal was accepted by the Board and later supported at our Annual Congregational Meeting. The funds to purchase the Machzor, High Holy Day Prayerbook, have come directly from our Morton

and Phyllis Simon (z"l) Prayerbook Fund.

The *Mishkan HaNefesh* is broken up into two volumes: one for Rosh Hashanah and one for Yom Kippur. It is our plan to have these available to all of you on your High Holy Days seats.

Cantor Neff and I have spent the past year preparing to use the new Machzor, and we are striving to create a very similar worship experience to those we have done the past two years, but with a more accessible prayerbook.

I will be teaching a few classes over the summer as an introduction to the *Mishkan HaNefesh*. If you are interested in learning more about it, feel free to join us. There is no cost, and it is a chance to learn about how to make the High Holy Day experience more meaningful and hopefully more relevant to your spiritual journey.

Also, in order to rebuild our Prayerbook Fund, we encourage you to donate by sponsoring our Machzor. A bookplate will then be put into the Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur books with your name and/or those whom you wish to honor. You can find the order form on page 13.

We look forward to welcoming in the New Year with you in just a few short weeks. We also look forward to sharing the experience with you, with a Machzor that you will hopefully find to be even more meaningful and engaging.

B'Shalom,

Rabbi Benjamin Sharff

RabbiSharff@RTRny.org





# FROM THE PRESIDENT ADRIAN MODANSKY

This is the month of Elul, the month which precedes Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. It is a time to prepare for the celebration of the Jewish New Year. We spend time planning for

our holiday: the holiday meals, and who will be invited to our homes to share them.

Family gatherings are especially important during the holidays. When families are together we have the opportunity to build our relationships and interact in a warm and safe environment. The time around the Jewish New Year celebration provides all Jews the opportunity to look, both inward and outward, to evaluate what has occurred in the past year and the improvements to strive for in the New Year. We can freely discuss the social issues of the time hopefully with a view to improve our community.

We live in a world where everyone's schedule is extremely busy. We must make the time to stay connected. Engaging each other in conversation we learn about each other's achievements and struggles. A majority of American families report eating a meal together less than five times a week. In some other countries, they regard the significance of having regular family meals together with greater reverence. The holidays are a wonderful time for the generations of each family to come together, when elder family members may enjoy the company of their children, grandchildren and, if they're lucky, great-grandchildren. In my home we will celebrate with three generations, of our nuclear family (my mom, my sisters, our children).

People are also more likely to eat healthier when gathered together. Children have been shown to do better in school when they have an engaging relationship with their family, as the atmosphere should nurture and enrich them.

There are many Jewish traditions to be found in the foods we eat. Often, our greatest memories are those of sharing delicious meals with a family. These meals reflect not only religious influences, but also the unique cuisine of the lands where our parents, or grandparents, have emigrated from. Cooking is also a great opportunity to get children involved in the holidays and their preparation.

During Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, we all feel a sense of security and community as we gather together. Our families expect their favorite food to be prepared for the holiday, as well as the chance to try new preparations of old dishes or all new recipes. Be creative with your menus and you can inspire your family as well. Celebrating together and enjoying each other's company help to enrich the holidays and our lives.

Love is the secret ingredient that makes the food taste so great and the holidays so special.

Chodesh Tov u'Mevorach.

B'Shalom,

Adrian Modansky, President

adrean Modansky

President@RTRny.org



https://bit.ly/2lbkB3f

#### Guess what else the little birdie told us?





# FROM BRAD ZICHOLTZ, <u>DIRECTOR OF CONGREGATIONAL LEARNING</u>

#### Jewish Camping is Vital for the Continuity of Reform Judaism

I recently returned from Eisner Camp located in Great Barrington, MA. The camp, which is

run by the Reform Movement's umbrella organization, the Union for Reform Judaism, is one of 16 Reform Jewish camps located throughout North America. Truth be told, I grew up at Eisner back in the 1990's. Rather, I would say that I became Jewish at Eisner Camp. I can unequivocally state that without my years at Eisner, I would hardly have any connection to Judaism today. I also would have never met my wife, but that's a different article.

I travelled to camp with my family at the beginning of July where I spent a week on faculty as a Jewish Educator along with seven other faculty who happened to be all Rabbis (although I didn't hold it against them!). Our job for



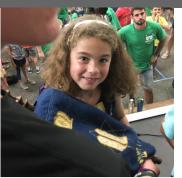
Dropping my daughter off at the bunk. L'dor v'dor: from generation to generation.

the week was to teach three hours of Limud (Jewish Learning) to the three youngest units in camp (one hour for each unit) and two hours in the afternoon teaching an elective course to the oldest three units in camp. Now that may sound like a lot of education for a sleepaway camp but what is taught are values and lessons that help children learn to be better bunk-



My son and a friend enjoying Shabbat Services on a beautiful summer evening.

mates, friends, and ultimately, better human beings. For example, one day we learned about the Jewish value of Dibuk Chaverim, sticking by your friends. After a short discussion, we tied each camper to a partner, went out onto the soccer field and tried to play a game of soccer "glued" to their friend. They came to understand that, like in soccer, we need our friends but sometimes sticking too closely makes things diffi-



My daughter was chosen as one of the youngest campers in to be passed the Torah from the oldest camper.

cult. The discussion afterwards talked about making time for others and making good choices. These are Jewish values and totally accessible and memorable for kids.

Limud is just one example, but the Eisner experience is one of Jewish immersion. For four weeks or a whole summer, Jewish children are living "Jewishly." The schedule and the buildings all have

Hebrew names. "After Aruchat Tzorayim (lunch) in the Chadar Ohel (dining hall) we have menucha (rest hour) followed by chugim (choice - either arts or sports)." This would be a very normal thing to hear over lunch at Eisner. I could go on and on about how the camp does the immersion experience but the outcome is what is most important.

Several recent studies discovered that there are two things that most determine whether or not a Jewish person will have a strong Jewish identity throughout their life. The first is a trip to Israel, and the second is a Jewish Sleepaway camp experience. This is why our Religious School is playing with the notion of an immersion experience for our children. This coming year we will be immersing our kids in the Hebrew language more than ever before. We have a new program called "Hebrew



Through Movement" where our learners aren't sitting, reading line after line of Hebrew but learning Hebrew commands and words and acting them out. It's fun, interactive, they learn a ton of Hebrew, and they are happy about being at Temple!

My seven-year-old spent her first time in a bunk this July. For me, it was very emotional to see her have her first Eisner experiences. I know that she is on the journey to discovering her own Jewish identity. I hope that everyone reading this article considers sending either their child or grandchild to Eisner, Crane Lake, Sci-Tech, or any of the other 13 URJ camps around the country. Rabbi Sharff and I would be glad to talk to you

about this in more detail.

Brad Zicholtz Brad@RTRny.org "The only source of knowledge is experience." - Albert Einstein

#### **EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

### TORAH TOPICS

Thursdays at 10:30 AM

Torah Topics is an informal discussion group. Elements of the Torah are related to today's life through readings and personal narratives. The group freely shares observations and opinions and welcomes drop-ins and regular participants. Coffee, tea, and a small nosh are provided.

## TASTE OF TORAH Saturdays at 9:00 AM

Join in as we make sense of each week's (English translated) Torah portion and find out what meaning it has in our lives today. Listen to the discussion or put in your two cents and let our commentators put in theirs. Great fun and learning! Facilitated by our Clergy. Bagels at 9 AM. Study 9:15-10:15 AM.

#### **Torah Services at RTR**

Clergy will read from the Torah at Erev Shabbat Services on the following dates: Aug 17, Sept 28, Oct 19, Nov 16, Dec 21



# Explore the NEW High Holy Days Prayerbooks with Rabbi Sharff

Wed, Aug 15, at 12:00 PM (Bring your lunch!) Sun, Aug 26, at 10:00 AM

This year we will be adopting a new prayerbook for the High Holy Days - the **Mishkan HaNefesh:** Machzor for the Days of Awe. We already use the draft edition for Kol Nidre services, and it is a similar model to the Mishkan Tefillah which we currently use for Shabbat and Festival worship. There are many reasons why we have decided to change prayerbooks, including its use of transliteration (Hebrew written in English characters) which makes the experience more inclusive. Language and theology of the prayer book have been updated, and it is a more accessible and spiritual book in many ways. And, yet, it can be a challenging prayerbook upon initial examination. Therefore, come and study and learn with our new High Holy Day Machzor. In this one-hour session you will have the opportunity to explore our new Machzor with Rabbi Sharff and examine some of the layout, tropes, theological concepts, prayers, and structures of our new prayerbook.





# RTR is going to the **Rockland Boulders**

Saturday Night - August 18, 2018

Fireworks Afterwards



\$18.00 per ticket

(Ticket does not include food)

Net proceeds benefit youth group programming

For further information and tickets, please contact: Mitch Glanzrock at mitchrocks@aol.com, or Bernie Perry at poppaperry14@aol.com



#### **MEN'S CLUB**

Due to weather, we postponed the Men's Club's 21st Annual Golf Outing to Tues, Aug 14. Sponsorship opportunities have been extended and we hope you join us as we honor long-time youth

and Men's Club supporter Barry Rosenblum. If you're not a golfer, then please join us for dinner and cocktails. We hope to see you there!

I'm sure by now you have all received the Men's Club mailing about membership. Membership dues allows Men's Club to support many events that take place within the Temple, like the Sept 16 Back-to-School BBQ, the Sept 28 Friday night Sukkot BBQ, or the Oct 2 Pizza Dinner held jointly with WRJ/Sisterhood for Simchat Torah. Your membership and participation make for a stronger RTR. In case you can't find the

mailing, which came with a return envelope, the form is included below.

Please don't forget Sat night Aug 18, fireworks night at the Rockland Boulder's game. Tickets are limited. See the flyer on page nine on how to get your tickets.

On Sept 23 we have a Business & Bagels Meeting. All members are welcome, just send a heads up so we have a bagel for you. We will also find out how many men it takes to put up a Sukkah!

Laurie & I would also like to take this opportunity to wish the entire Congregation a Happy and Healthy New Year. My the year 5779 be for you and your family one of Peace, Joy & Love.

David Firstenberg, President DavidFirstenberg@gmail.com

#### All Supporters of Temple Youth:

Please consider joining Men's Club. The top five reasons to join:

- 1. Temple youth
- 2. Temple youth
- 3. Temple youth
- 4. Temple youth
- 5. And, lastly, Temple youth

I am not trying to be funny. Men's Club's main purpose is to support youth programming. Your dues and the other funds Men's Club raises throughout the year go toward the youth group and other youth-related activities. We also support Jewish education, including the RTR religious school. We also have some fun helping with the Purim carnival, barbecues, and breakfasts. There are enjoyable events during the year such as comedy night, the golf outing, and baseball games. Please be a mensch and use the application form below to join or renew your membership. Thank you for your support! Interested in learning more? Please contact me directly. I would love to hear from you.

Russell Jay, Membership Chair russpjay@gmail.com 845-368-8695 / 201-538-9872

Men's Club dues are \$40. Please make checks payable to RTRMC and mail to: RTR ATTN: Men's Club, 330 N. Highland Ave, Upper Nyack, NY 10960

Name:	
Address:	
Home Phone:	Cell Phone:
Email:	



#### **Sponsorship Opportunities**

\$4,000

\$3,000

\$3,000

\$3,000

\$1,500

\$1,000

\$ 600

**Event Sponsor** includes 6 golfer fees with lunch and dinner, recognition at multiple event locations and listing in event day program. **Golf Cart Sponsor** includes 4 golfer

**Golf Cart Sponsor** includes 4 golfer fees with lunch and dinner, a sign on every cart for the entire day, and listing in event day program.

**Gift Sponsor** includes 4 golfer fees with lunch and dinner, a recognition note with each gift and listing in event day program.

**Dinner Sponsor** includes 4 golfer fees with lunch and dinner, banner display at dinner, listing in event day program and your name on each dinner ticket.

**Lunch Sponsor** includes 2 golfer fees with lunch and dinner, banner display at lunch, listing in event day program and your name on each lunch ticket.

**Hole-in-one Sponsor** includes 1 golfer fee and banner display at hole.

**Practice Facility Sponsor** includes a sign on the driving range and listing in event day program.

**Entire Hole Sponsor** includes tee, fairway and green dedicated by a sign \$ 300 and listing in event day program.

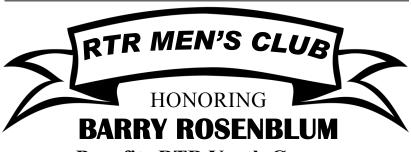
**Tee, or Fairway, or Green Sponsor** display sign at a designated hole and \$ 180 listing in event day program.

#### **Golf and Dinner Fees**

**Golf Package** includes golf with cart, continental breakfast, lunch, cocktails, and dinner. **Dinner and cocktail hour** \$90

**Raffle Tickets** 1 for \$10 or 3 for \$25

**NEW DATE!** 



**Benefits RTR Youth Groups** 

TUESDAY, AUG 14th, 2018 11:00am check-in; 1:00pm

Checks payable to <u>RTR Men's Club</u> and this form must be received by August 4<sup>th</sup>:

330 North Highland Avenue Nyack, NY 10960 Attn: Golf Committee

Company name and contac	t with address:
Please list the golfers in you	ır party:
1. Name	
e-mail	
2. Name	= \$395
e-mail	
3. Name	<b>- \$305</b>
e-mail	
4. Namee-mail	
e-mail	<del></del>
Foursome Discount	(\$100)
Sponsorship amount	
Dinner & Cocktail Hour x \$9	00 =
With 3 Raffles x \$1	05 =
Extra raffles purchased	
Total	\$



# Religious School

120 Main St NYACK

Tues, Aug 28

-5:30 PM

**Kick-off the School Year** with Brad, Clergy & the

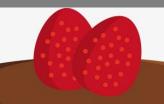
#### **HIGH HOLY DAYS**



#### Interested in **Ushering?**

We have begun the process of scheduling ushers for all services and are looking for volunteers to help usher for two

hours at any HHD service. If you are interested, please contact Steve Dachs at desdax@aol.com or 845-406-7703. Thank You!



#### Sign up for the Selichot **Nut-FREE Dessert Reception!**

Help create a SWEET reception for Selichot. Do you have a special recipe? Sign up to bring in your dessert to start off the New Year SWEET. Look for more information in our e-Connections.



#### SYNAGOGUE&CONNECT

Synagogue Connect offers free tickets to unaffiliated Jewish young adults ages 18-26 all over the world who are looking for a synagogue to attend during the High Holy Days. RTR is a member. Know of someone needing this service? Visit: www.synagogueconnect.org.

#### We have a parking spot with your name on it!

Support RTR and reserve your own private parking spot for the High Holy Days NOW! \$500 a spot! \$860 for two! Please contact Jolie at 845-358-2248 or Jolie@RTRny.org.



Lulav & Etrog Sets for Sukkot are available for purchase. Please call the office at 845-358-2248 to place your order. Orders must be received by August 20, 2018

Children's Set-\$26.00 Standard Set—\$30.00 Deluxe Set-\$50.00



# Make a Silver & Gold Dedication Before the High Holy Days



The Reform Temple of Rockland will transition to *Mishkan Hanefesh, Machzor for the Days of Awe* starting in the upcoming New Year 5779. We are offering our congregants the opportunity to make personal dedications (in honor of, in memory of, in appreciation of a loved one) for the *Machzors*. A dedication is a beautiful way to remember, honor, or recognize someone special.

Your **Silver & Gold Dedication** is a purchase of a set (Rosh Hashanah (GOLD) and Yom Kippur (SILVER)) of *Machzorim*. A single dedication will be a bookplate on the inside cover of each book.

#### Please return this form with your dedication(s) and payment to:

RTR, 330 N. Highland Ave, Upper Nyack, NY 10960 Questions? Contact Jolie Levy at 845-358-2248 or Jolie@RTRny.org

Dedication: In Memory	y Of In Honor	r Of  In Appreciation O	f
Loved One's Name:			
Occasion (if applicable):			<u>-</u>
Your Name(s) as you would like it t	:o read:		
Address:			<del></del>
City:	State:	Zip Code:	
Phone:	Email:		
I/We would like to dedicate	# set(s) of Mishk	an Hanefesh at \$54 each for	a total of \$
I/We would like to dedicate 10	<i>Mishkan Hanefesh</i> set	s for \$500	\$
_		<u>T01</u>	<u>ral</u> \$
Method of Payment: Check ma	ade payable to RTR	Credit Card: Masterca	ard Visa
Card Number		Exp. Date	/ Code
If you would like to make a more substantial gift to help underwrite the purchase of Mishkan Hanefesh, please contact Jolie Levy at jolie@RTRny.org or 845-358-2248.			





# Come Visit The RTR WRJ/Sisterhood

# **JUDAICA SHOP**

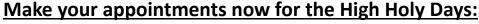
For ALL Your High Holy Day Needs

Don't forget about us—add to your own collection!

Select from an assortment of jewelry, apple and honey items, shofars and more!

#### Bring a host gift they'll use!

We have picture frames, salad bowls, serving platters, and a tremendous assortment of Michael Aram!



Email JudaicaShop@RTRNY.org or call: Lisa Jay at 914-572-0200 Renee Kratter at 845-357-6715 Helayne Pfeffer at 845-429-2939

We look forward to seeing you soon!

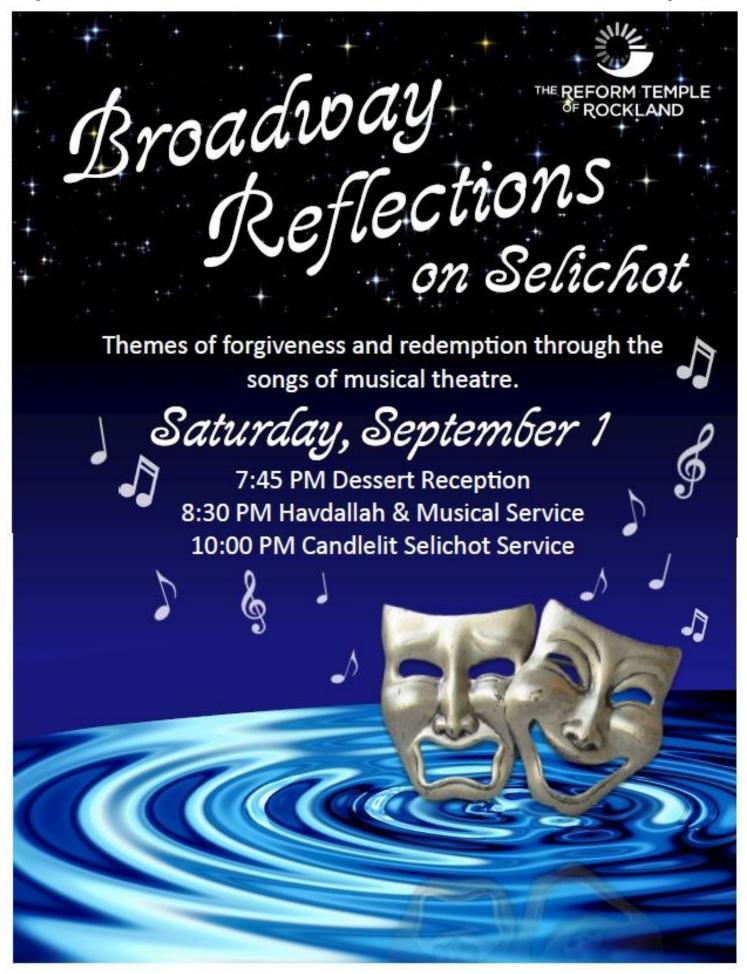
A portion of all sales go to support our





## **5779 High Holy Day Services**

<u>Selichot</u>		
09/01/18	7:45 PM	Dessert Reception
	8:30 PM	Havdallah & Musical Service
	10:00 PM	Candlelit Selichot Service
Rosh Hasha	nah (tickets require	ed)
09/09/18	5:30 PM	Erev RH Family & Community Service
	7:30 PM	Erev RH Congregational Service
09/10/18	10:00 AM	RH Day 1 Service
	10:00 AM	Children's Experience & Babysitting
	3:00 PM	Tashlich at Kakiat Park
09/11/18	10:00 AM	RH Day 2 Service
09/14/18	7:30 PM	Shabbat Shuva Service
Yom Kippur	(tickets required)	
09/18/18	7:30 PM	Kol Nidre Service
09/19/18	10:00 AM	Congregational Service
	10:00 AM	Children's Experience & Babysitting
	1:00 PM	Yizkor Service
	2:00 PM	Ask the Rabbi
	3:00 PM	Healing Service
	4:00 PM	Minchah/Afternoon Service with Open Ark
	5:00 PM	N'ilah
<u>Sukkot</u>		
09/23/18	6:00 PM	Dairy Din <mark>ner provide</mark> d <mark>by</mark> WRJ/Sisterhood
	7:30 PM	Erev Sukkot Service
09/24/18	10:30 AM	Sukkot Festival Morning Service
09/28/18	6:00 PM	Sukkot BBQ provided by Men's Club
	7:30 PM	Erev Shabbat Service: Torah Service
Shmini Atze	ret & Simchat Tora	<u>ıh</u>
10/01/18	10:30 AM	Shmini Atzeret Festival Morning Service & Yizkor
10/02/18	6:00 PM	Pizza Party by WRJ/Sisterhood & Men's Club
	6:30 PM	Havdallah & Simchat Torah Service



## **August 2018**

			1 20 Av 6:30p AA 7:30p Choir 8:00p PFLAG	2 21 Av 10:30a Torah Topics 7:15p RS Comm. 8-10p 3rd NJC	6:30p Erev Shab- bat Family Service	Torah 10:00a Pop-up Shabbat-Nyack Memorial Park 10:30a Shabbat Service
5 24 Av 6		cle	8 27 Av 6:30p AA 7:30p Choir 7:30p Exec. Comm.	9 28 Av 10:30a Torah Topics 7:30p Car Club	7:30p Erev Shab- bat Service	11 30 Av Parashat Re'eh 9:00a Taste of Torah 10:30a Shabbat Service
12-5p 3rd NJC		8-10p 3rd NJC		8-10p 3rd NJC		
12 1 Elul 2		NEW DATE! Men's Club Golf Outing 11:00a Check-In 1:00p Tee-off	15 4 Elul 12:00p New Prayerbook Class Lunch n' Learn 6:30p AA 6:30p CANDLE 7:00p TransPar- ents 7:30p WRJ Board	16 5 Elul 10:30a Torah Topics 7:30p Choir	7:30p Erev Shab- bat Service: <b>Torah</b> <b>Service</b>	Parashat Shoftim 9:00a Taste of Torah 10:30a Shabbat Service 6:30p Men's Club Rockland Boulders Fireworks Game
19 8 Elul 2	20 9 Elul	21 10 Elul 7:30p Ritual	6:30p AA 7:30p Choir	23 12 Elul 10:30a Torah Topics	7:30p Erev Shab- bat Service: Shab- bat in the Park	25 14 Elul Parashat Ki Teitzei 9:00a Taste of Torah 10:30a Shabbat Service
12-5p 3rd NJC				8-10p 3rd NJC	11:30p-3a 3rd NJC	
26 15 Elul 10:00a New Prayerbook Class 10:00a Social Ac- tion		4:00p Religious	29 18 Elul 6:30p AA 7:30p Choir	30 19 Elul 10:30a Torah Topics 8-10p 3rd NJC	31 20 Elul 7:30p Erev Shab- bat Service	0

For the most up-to-date event information, please visit our online calendar at www.RTRny.org.



#### The Reform Temple of Rockland

# women of REFORM JUDAISM SISTERHOOD The Mitzvot of Membership



#### What is WRJ?

Our Sisterhood is an organization of women who join together in friendship. We are women of all ages, and bonded by many factors. We support the tenets of Reform Judaism and The Reform Temple of Rockland in many ways.

Our programs, activities and fundraising efforts benefit our congregation, our children and our community. We meet for social and spiritual activities. Sisterhood provides the arena for us to ex-



pand and grow in a Jewish atmosphere. As a member of Sisterhood, you will join with other Women of Reform Judaism supporting issues affecting women and families around the world.

We are a caring community that strives to put our Jewish ideals into action. As we learn and serve, we share friendship, fun and prayers and gain a sense of belonging. You determine your own level of participation, from financial support through dues and donations to participation in events and programs. **Try us - you'll** 

like us!



#### A Sampling of What We Do...

- Sponsor, arrange and host Oneg Shabbatot
- Present gifts to Bar & Bat Mitzvah celebrants
- Provide Jewish holiday parties for the Religious School
- Provide scholarships to our Temple youth for NFTY and camp
- Send Chanukah, Rosh Hashanah and Passover packages to our college students
- Decorate the bima for Sukkot

- Support Israel Bonds, The Union of Reform Judaism, Women of Reform Judaism & YES Fund
- Support Community Charities
- Sponsor Broadway Theater Group
- Provide Financial Support for The Reform Temple of Rockland
- Operate the Judaica Shop
- Support the Women of ARC Skokie House
- Support Helping Hands Initiative

#### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please complete membership application and make check made payable to WRJ.

Name:	
Address:	
Home Phone:	Cell Phone:
Email:	
	We offer different banks of an about

#### Please mail to:

WRJ/Sisterhood Membership The Reform Temple of Rockland 330 North Highland Avenue Upper Nyack, NY 10960

Please Select	Membership	Level	:
---------------	------------	-------	---

General \$36

General & YES contrib. \$41

Chai \$54

Chai & YES Fund contrib. \$59

Golden Chai \$72

Golden Chai & YES contrib. \$77

We offer different levels of membership. Members who enroll at either the Chai or Golden Chai levels will receive special recognition at events throughout the year, special privileges at Sisterhood/WRJ events (including free raffle tickets), and the contentment of knowing that you have given our WRJ an 'extra boost.'

Sisterhood/WRJ encourages support of the Youth, Education and Special Projects (YES) Fund. This Fund supports youth and education programs throughout the Reform movement. This includes educational and cultural programs for high school and college age youth, as scholarships and grants for future rabbis. Resources are also provided for service and humanitarian causes in the areas of social justice, human rights, early childhood education, human services and world peace. Please support the YES Fund by adding \$5.00 to your dues check. You will receive a package of beautifully designed Union Gram cards.

#### **RTR Helps Separated Children**

In our tradition of Tikkun Olam (Repairing the World) and in response to the travesty of children being forcibly separated from their parents at our southern border by our government, several of us decided to take concrete and immediate action.

Working in conjunction with The Children's Village, a Dobbs Ferry facility that is housing a number of the children, we collected book bags and school supplies from June 22<sup>nd</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>. These bags will also be used as small suitcases when hopefully these children will be reunited with their families.





We are gratified and humbled to announce that our congregants and others who heard about our collection donated **OVER 200 NEW BOOK BAGS AND THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS WORTH OF SCHOOL SUPPLIES!** We delivered the items on June 29<sup>th</sup> and we are sure that they will be put to good use.

The generosity and heartfelt concern of so many of you has been uplifting and your commitment to Tikkun Olam has made a difference in each of these children's lives.

Although we know that no binder or book bag can begin to ease the aches in these children's hearts, we are energized by your generosity and care for these children as they struggle with their daily lives.

We will continue to work for justice and pray that our government protects and respects the dignity of all people. Our government must swiftly act to reunite these children with their families.

#### Looking to do MORE?...

Join RTR's Social Action Committee

First meeting will be on: Tues, Aug 21 at 7:30 PM All are welcome!

Come together with fellow congregants to work together to help with the needs of our community! If interested, contact Helyane Pfeffer by email at: hayne1954@gmail.com.

Social Action will join People to People in helping Rockland children go "Back to School with Dignity!"

A Collection Bin is in the Lower Lobby at RTR.

#### **School Supply Shopping List:**

#2 Pencils
Colored Pencils
Crayons
Markers (Fat /Thin)
Pens (Blue, Black, Red)
Highlighters
Pencil Sharpeners
Pencil Cases
Block Erasers

Pocket Folders
Binders (1/5' or >)
Loose Leaf Paper
Binder Dividers
Marble Notebooks
3-Sub Spiral Notebooks
5-Sub Spiral Notebooks
4 Function Calculator
Protractor/Compass Set



RTR was well represented at the Families Belong Together March on June 29.

Rulers Scissors Glue Sticks Index cards (3x5) Graph Paper Book Covers New Backpacks (boy or girl, K-12)

#### **AUGUST BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES**



Day	Name (up to age 25)
7	Julia Wilen
9	Sam Askenas
13	Arielle Salmon
13	Brendan Salmon
17	Sophie Jay
18	Eva Friedberg
21	Emily Sharff
26	Eric Melter
27	Benjamin Gelman

Those of any age with August birthdays are welcome to join us at Family Services at 6:30 PM on August 3 to receive a birthday blessing and get a sweet treat!

Day	Names	Years
1	Michael Schutzbank & Rhonda Fleischer	14
2	Boris & Bella Spektor	43
2	Barry & Nancy Hoffman	38
2	Jeffrey & Marisa Plotkin	38
6	Phillip & Patricia Beutel	35
10	Charles & Sally Borgman	49
12	David & Susan Klein	45
14	Wayne & Bonnie Michaels	41
15	Charles & Eve Freeman	27
16	Stephen & Irene Kopelman	49
16	Myron & Nina Lazar	31
17	Michael & Eileen Rutter	43
18	Michael & Mia Rothstein	33
19	Thomas & Wendy D'Arminio	39
21	Ronald & Deborah Bloom	31
21	Mitchell & Karen Schulman	30
23	Allen & Miriam Fetterman	49
23	Jordan & Deborah Turner	20
24	Paul & Ellen Ratisher	50
24	Walter & Barbara Fiedler	55
25	Matthew & Fawn Fleissig	11
25	Jody & Lisa Fox	39
25	Victor & Rochelle Stein	22
26	Rabbi Ronald and Hagit Mass	39
26	Barry & Melissa Rosenblum	45
27	Carl & Joan Radin	63
27	Paul & Ellen Gould	51
27	Michael & Cantor Elizabeth Goldmann	29
28	Seth & Ruth Schlanger	36

If you are celebrating a special anniversary and would like a special blessing, please let us know.

#### **GOOD & WELFARE**

Mazel Tov to Larry Beck & Susan Silver on the birth of their grandson, Yehuda Pincas, on June 16. Proud parents are Hannah & Gabriel Toran.

Mazel Tov to **Judith & Stephen Kiss.** Their daughter-in law, Dr. Ivy Giserman-Kiss, received her PhD in Clinical Psychology from University of Massachusetts/Boston and will be doing her 2-year Post Doc at Mt. Sinai.

#### **CONDOLENCES**

Our deepest sympathies to Barbara Gass. Her husband, Harold, died June 16.

Our deepest sympathies to **Deborah Studnitzer**. Her father, Saul Sanders, MD, died July 5.

RTR mourns the loss of longtime member, Vivian Sadler. Vivian died July 11.

Our deepest sympathies to Elaine & Sam Simon on the death of their friends, Charles Eisenstein and Richard Voight.

#### **VOLUNTEERING & OUTREACH**

#### **Rhoda Bloom Kosher Food Pantry**

Volunteers are needed monthly. The shift starts at 8:45 AM and ends before noon.

Upcoming Volunteer Days: Aug 19, Sept 16, Oct 14

ONE OF THE GREATEST GIFTS YOU CAN GIVE IS YOUR TIME

One in six Americans is affected by "food insecurity" – the lack of consistent, dependable access to food due to limited money or resources. Rockland Jewish Family Service works to alleviate hunger in our community through the Rhoda Bloom Kosher Food Pantry, which delivers kosher food to anyone in Rockland who is in need.

The Food Pantry currently feeds approximately 200 families in our community. RTR has been asked to donate **200 HALF GALLON KOSHER APPLE JUICE CONTAINERS** *each month* to the Rhoda Bloom Kosher Food Pantry. Please drop off juice donations in either the bins downstairs in front of the office or in the upstairs lobby.

RTR needs a volunteer to coordinate monthly juice orders. Please call the office if you can help!

It only requires a few phone calls each month.

#### Can You Make a Phone Call?

**Compassionate RTR Congregants Needed** 

Some in our RTR family would love an occasional friendly phone call or visit. Let's do a mitzvah and show that we care for each other!

To volunteer, email Eva Steen: Chesed@RTRny.org

#### Can You Drive a Car?

RTR is seeking volunteer drivers (21 or older) to provide transportation for congregants who are unable to drive themselves. If you will be coming to Friday or Saturday services or any events and have room in your car, please contact Jolie Levy,

Temple Administrator, at (845) 358-2248 or Jolie@RTRny.org to get matched up with someone in your area who might be in need of a ride. Your help would be greatly appreciated!

LIFE'S MOST PERSISTENT AND URGENT QUESTION IS:

WHAT ARE
YOU DOING
FOR OTHERS?

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

#### **VOLUNTEERING & OUTREACH**



#### YAHRZEIT CALLERS NEEDED

Callers are needed to make a few (3-4) brief, weekly calls to remind people of the service schedule for their loved one's Yahrzeit. Names, relevant information and the script are provided weekly via email.

You must have access to email to help with this project.

If interested in helping, please email Jorie Sear at volunteer@RTRny.org. Your help would be greatly appreciated!

Please Note: Any request for changes to Yahrzeit name readings made with the office will not be reflected in the reminder calls.

Do you have a steamer and an hour or two to spare? We're looking for a volunteer to help keep our building warm and welcoming.

Call the office if you're available at 845-358-2248.

#### **WRJ/Sisterhood Assists Homeless Women**

As part of our community outreach, we are collecting feminine hygiene products for the women who are served by Helping Hands, Rockland's program to aid and shelter homeless Rocklanders.

## We are accepting sanitary napkins and tampons ONLY.

Kindly donate these products by bringing them to a Sisterhood meeting or by placing them in either the collection bin outside the temple office or the one in the upstairs lobby.

Thank you for your generosity and kindness.



#### **Give Your Old Shoes a New Life!**

WRJ/Sisterhood continues their fundraiser collecting used shoes, which are "worn, but definitely not worn out!" Used shoes are in great demand in developing countries. Recycled shoes create jobs and fuel local economies. Please drop off pairs of men's, women's or children's shoes. Look for donation boxes in the upstairs lobby and downstairs entrance.

#### Do you have a child in college?

Please email the mailing address to RTR's College Chair, Ruth Schlanger at rjs521@aol.com. RTR and the WRJ/Sisterhood want our college students to remain part of our family and will send them some surprises while they are away at college.

## LET'S TALK ART: Display Case in the Oy Vey Cafe

**SERIES VIII** 



Antique Tzedakah Box made of gold and silver, **Etrog Holder** 



Star of David Chanukah Menorah



Hand Washing Bowl



Star of David, Tree of Life



Havdalah Spice Box, Wine Goblet and Tray



Bible Cover by Hana Geber that depicts the blessing over the Shabbat candles



Silver Menorah reclaimed from the ashes of a concentration camp



Brass Shabbat Lamp: 18th-19th century European lamp used by Jews for lighting their homes and later sometimes used in a Synagogue as the Eternal Light



Chanukah Menorah **Anonymous Contribution** 



Small sculpture of Moses by Hana Geber Hana Geber (1910-1990) b. Prague, Bohemia, was a sculptor, educated in Prague and at the Art Students League and Sculpture Center, NY. She is known for her modern sculpture of Biblical subjects in bronze, silver and terra cotta. She was a designer of ceremonial objects for use in homes

Noah's Ark

Artist Unknown



Ceramic Chanukah Menorah by Susan Garson, a well-known ceramic artist whose works are displayed in many Museums and who was also one of "TBE's Temple Kids"



THE HOLY BOOKS: a lucite sculpture by Larry Kagan. Larry Kagan is a sculptor who uses steel, light and cast shadow as creative medium. A long-time Professor of Art at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, NY, he maintains studios in Troy and New York City.





Lion Chanukah Menorah Artist Unknown



Get to know your RTR family one story at a time. Names will be randomly selected so, yes... YOU may be our next call!



#### **Meet Susan Caminez & Family**

Meet our very own Susan Caminez and her family, Brett, Mila and Hugo!

Susan has gone through a lot of "drama" before arriving in Rockland County. Shortly after graduating from The Hartt School, PTTP (Professional Theatre Training Program) at the University of Hartford with her BFA in Music Theatre, she moved to the Big Apple to pound the pavement. Susan performed in various readings and on off-off Broadway and then directed a short film with friends from her new theater community, (friends who also set her up on a blind date where she met Brett,her husband).

A few months before they got married, Susan converted to Judaism, finished her thesis and graduated with an MA in Non-Profit Management from Columbia University and starred in a musical (with Brett) at their then current synagogue (all while working fulltime). After they were married they had Mila (a beautiful homebirth in their apartment) and then moved to Rockland County where Brett has his Chiropractic practice and where they later had their son Hugo, also at home.

When asked how she connects with Judaism, Susan explained. "Four months into our relationship, Brett and I sat on Rabbi Beal's couch and discussed Judaism. He told us we knew nothing and should take classes to-

gether, which we did. We were in classes together for over a year and half before my mikveh and our marriage. We wanted to be on the same page in raising our children. I always had wonderful experiences growing up in church and the community it created for me. Through our studies I had found that my values were more in line with the practices of Judaism than Christianity."

When Susan is not answering phones, organizing the RTR office, or making RTR videos she loves bringing Mila and Hugo to services as well as decorating her home for the holidays.

As far as creating Jewish traditions goes, Susan reflects, "I can only say that by my commitment to my Jewish identity I have taught about and brought it back into the lives of my husband's family. We are creating new traditions all the time with our children because of it."

Now you know the story behind the cheerful voice that greets you at RTR when you call. Susan reminds us that we all have a story to tell, and hers is a pretty extraordinary one.



Look who was in the June Rivertown!

#### DONATIONS (May 11—June 10, 2018)

#### **Adult & Family Education Fund**

Gwenn Canfield in honor of the birth of Michelle Lowy's grandson Jeff & Helayne Pfeffer in memory of Rudolph Oppenheimer

#### **Art Fund**

Edward & Marilyn Lawner in memory of Harold Gass

#### **Cantor George Weinflash Music Fund**

Gwenn Canfield in honor of Adrian Modansky's Presidency Carl & Joan Radin in memory of Saul Radin Edward & Marilyn Lawner in memory of Bella Lawner Jorie Sear in memory of Alex Alpert & Gary Kravetsky Leonard Gross & Libby Tulin in memory of Eleanor K. Tulin, Irv

Leonard Gross & Libby Tulin in memory of Eleanor K. Tulin, Irving Gross & George Cion Michael & Barbara Kalvert in memory of Sol Kalvert



Stephen & Judith Levy in honor of Cantor Sally Neff's song, "Modim" being selected for Shabbat Anthology Keven & Helene Peck in memory of Jacob Pecker Martin & Helene Leibowitz in memory of Harold Gass Paul & Ellen Ratisher in memory of Esther Diamond William & Estelle Hans in memory of Louis Reich

#### **Family in Crisis Fund**

Paul & Judy Melter

#### Karen Ami Social Action Fund

Gwenn Canfield in memory of Julienne Canfield Jorie Sear in memory of Alex Alpert & Gary Kravetsky Leonard Gross & Libby Tulin in memory of Eleanor K. Tulin, Irving Gross & George Cion Russell Rizner & Julie Buffington-Rizner in memory of James Buffington

#### **Operating Fund**

Eric & Jennifer Rotbard

David & Susan Klein in honor of Adrian Modansky's Presidency

Alice Berman in memory of Rubin Berman

Jack & Phyllis Hiller in memory of Anna Reich, Joseph Reich, Anne Hiller & Charles Hiller

Josh & Traci Koppel in memory of Howard Cohen

Michael & Barbara Kalvert in memory of Sol & Sophie Kalvert

Michael & Rochelle Berger in memory of Irving Berger

Norman & Vivian Resnick in memory of Rachel Heffes

Stephen & Susan Schlussel in memory of Shirley Schlussel

Henry Kelston with appreciation for Cantor Neff's service

#### **Phyllis & Morton Simon Prayer Book Fund**

Michele Lowy in honor of Adrian Modansky's Presidency Michele Lowy in memory of Harold Gass RTR greatly appreciates all donations. If any have been overlooked or improperly allocated, please call the office and let us know.

(Continued from page 25)

#### Rabbi Louis Frishman Youth Endowment Fund

Lawrence & Amy Rapoport in honor of the birth of Michelle Lowy's grandson, Asher Bernard & Elaine Berson in memory of Harold Gass Bob & Susan Wallach in memory of Harold Gass Charlotte Fragakis in memory of Harold Gass Herbert & Jacqueline Freedman in memory of Harold Gass Iris Fialkoff in memory of Sadie Fialkoff and Allan Fialkoff Iris Fialkoff in memory of Harold Gass Irwin & Marilyn Haberman in memory of Harold Gass Marsha Kimmel & Shelly Kimmel in memory of Harold Gass Mitchell & Michele Cheser in memory of Harold Gass Mr. & Mrs. Martin Greenstein in memory of Harold Gass Natalia Kitt in memory of Harold Gass Stewart & Suzanne Bader in memory of Harold Gass The Hammer Family & Myra Echt in memory of Harold Gass



#### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Elaine Casper in honor of Jill Tanney Larry Beck & Susan Silver in honor of the birth of their grandson, Yehuda Pincas Barbara Simon in honor of Adrian Modansky's Presidency Donald & Jo Ann Waldorf in memory of Julius Samuel Perelman Jack & Phyllis Hiller in memory of Renee Graifman Jack & Phyllis Hiller in memory of Jerome Dorman Jack & Phyllis Hiller in memory of Harold Gass Martin & Charlene Furman in memory of Nathan Furman Marvin & Joan Anderman in memory of Anna Anderman Richard & Susan Hiller in memory of Harold Gass Ruth Lipman in memory of Joseph Sunshine

Michele Lowy & Brownfeld Family with appreciation for the Helen Hashkowitz unveiling service



Ruth Lipman in memory of Samuel Lipman



Thurs, Aug 9 at 1:00 PM "Weight of Ink" by Rachel Kadish

Start reading now and join us for a lively discussion.



Sat, Aug 4 at 10 AM **Nyack Memorial Park** K-2 Families & Community

It's Pop-up Shabbat and we're going to be at Nyack Memorial Park. Join Brad, RTR's Director of Congregational Learning, at the gazebo with your bathing suit/towel. Let's eat challah, drink juice, sing some songs and then play together at the splash pad and playground. Perfect for our K-2 Families and Community!

#### RTR CREATES COMMUNITY



The RTR car club encourages our members to help build friendships through a mutual enjoyment of auto-mobiles.

We hold a monthly meeting on the second Thursday of every month in the Tucker Lounge and share stories, experiences, and help each other with answers to all questions regarding automobiles. We also attend events off site. If you are interested in joining our Car Club, please contact Barry Fleischman by email at <a href="mailto:barrymb@aol.com">barrymb@aol.com</a> or phone at 845-494-4023.

**NEXT MEETINGS: AUG 9; SEPT 13** 

#### TREE OF LIFE & YAHRZEIT PLAQUES

Honor or memorialize your loved one or an event. Forms are available through our Office by calling 845-358-2248 or by emailing:
Susan@RTRny.org.

#### RTR'S KNITTING CIRCLE

Do you crochet, knit, or want to learn how?
Bring what you're working on or just show up and we'll get you started. Come join us and schmooze, craft and enjoy refreshments with fellow congregants.

## UPCOMING MEETING DATES: Aug 7 at 7 PM; Oct 16 at 10 AM

If you know of a temple member who is in need of some comfort, please do not hesitate to let us know so we can provide one of our handmade Mi Shebeirach bears or comfort shawls. Contact Helayne Pfeffer at 845-429-2939.

All names will be kept confidential.

#### MI SHEBEIRACH LIST

If you have names you would like to add or keep on the list, please email Susan@RTRny.org or call 845-358-2248. Please remember to let us know when a name can be removed.

#### **The Reform Temple of Rockland Committee Chairs**

Adult Education	Susan Klein rsdsk@aol.com Wendy Fleischman wendysue55@aol.com
Brit Olam	Nancy Bermon n.bermon@verizon.net Julie Buffington-Rizner jbuffington2@gmail.com
Building and Grounds	Jeff Grossman jeffggrossman@gmail.com Barry Schoenberg BJSDOC@aol.com
Caring & Inclusion Initiative	Eva Steen <u>eesteen@optonline.net</u> Helayne Pfeffer <u>hayne1954@gmail.com</u>
Finance	Stephen Hittman stephen.hittman@gmail.com
Fundraising	Barry Schoenberg BJSDOC@aol.com
Marketing	Fran Grossman franzgrossman@gmail.com

Men's Club	David Firstenberg <u>davidfirstenberg@gmail.com</u>
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Religious School	Tama Shor Beck shorbeck@verizon.net Cathy Klein kleincb@gmail.com
Ritual	Jodi Gischner ritualcommittee@RTRny.org Judith Kiss ritualcommittee@RTRny.org
WRJ/Sisterhood	Jane Aronoff aronoff@aol.com Estelle Hans estelleh1@verizon.net
Social Action	Helayne Pfeffer hayne1954@gmail.com
Youth	Russell Jay ripjay@optonline.net Sally Schoenberg carrot1060@aol.com

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#### THE REFORM TEMPLE OF ROCKLAND

Tel.: 845-358-2248 ♦ Fax: 845-358-3450 www.RTRny.org ♦ info@RTRny.org

#### Clergy

Rabbi Benjamin Sharff RabbiSharff@RTRny.org Cantor Sally Neff CantorNeff@RTRny.org

#### Staff

Dir. of Cong. Learning **Brad Zicholtz** Brad@RTRny.org **Temple Administrator** Jolie Levy Jolie@RTRny.org Administrative Assistant Susan Caminez Susan@RTRny.org **Bookkeeper** Kama Clark Kama@RTRny.org

#### **Board of Trustees**

President Adrian Modansky President@RTRny.org First Vice President Sean Levin seanrichardlevin@verizon.net **Vice President** Eva Steen eesteen@optonline.net Cathy Klein **Vice President** kleincb@gmail.com

**Vice President** Ellen Holtzman ellenh@rocklandfamilylaw.com **Treasurer** Stephen Hittman stephen.hittman@gmail.com

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**Trustee Cindy Norton** cinorton915@gmail.com

**Trustee Barry Schoenberg Trustee** Tama Shor Beck

bjsdoc@aol.com shorbeck@verizon.net **Trustee Deby Turner** deby1012@gmail.com **Trustee** Barbara Wilen barbwilen@live.com Jenn Woods innywoods@optonline.net **Trustee** 

#### **Helpful Deadline Information & Guidelines**

#### WEEKLY (Wednesdays): e-Connections

Our weekly email, "e-Connections," goes out to our congregation every Wednesday. This communication is for upcoming events and important announcements only. It is intended to be a short (2-page max.) newsletter; it is not intended to run repetitive flyers or announcements (i.e., Soul Mates shoe collection). Text will be limited and graphics will be small. Flyers will be linked. Please **note:** stand-alone e-blasts are primarily for life cycle events.

WEEKLY (Fridays): Erev Shabbat Services Handout

Each Friday, we prepare the Yahrzeit and Mi Shebeirach lists for the Erev Shabbat Services handout. If there are any changes/additions to these lists, please notify the RTR Office by 10 AM. Changes/additions made after the deadline will be communicated to clergy and appropriately read, but the handout will not be changed.

#### **MONTHLY: Connections**

Deadline: 10th of the Prior Month (Ex: Dec 10th for Jan)

Deadline: 3:00 PM Tuesday

Each month, we produce a bulletin that is mailed to homes and businesses. Entries are due in the Office by the 10th of the month for inclusion in the following month's bulletin. This communication is intended for ongoing events, flyers, news, articles, and an-

Submission Guidelines: Please submit your own flyers. Be sure to include a date, time, location, description and contact person. We accept all formats. All of the above information can be emailed to Susan@RTRny.org.



330 N. Highland Avenue Upper Nyack, NY 10960 www.RTRNY.org Non-Profit Organization U.S. POSTAGE

#### **PAID**

Monsey, New York Permit No. 7009

**Current Resident Or:** 

## A Service So Nice We Have it Twice!



Join us again for an incredible music-filled worship service with the beautiful backdrop of Rockland Lake State Park. Pack your picnic dinner (no alcohol please) and dine with your friends at 6:30 PM before we worship together at 7:30 PM. Bring your folding chairs and a sweet treat to share at the oneg. Use the South Entrance to the park—you can't miss us. Everyone has a great time! A wonderful family-friendly service for all!

## Shabbat in the Park

Fri, Aug 24, at 7:30 PM Rockland Lake State Park BYO Picnic at 6:30 PM